

claims 10-25.

*Sub B*  
-10. A hair styling iron comprising:

a first lever including a first grip portion, a first plate portion equipped with an electric heater, and a first fulcrum portion, and

a second lever including a second grip portion opposed to said first grip portion, a second plate portion equipped with an electric heater and opposed to said portion of said first lever, and a second fulcrum portion pivotally supported by said first fulcrum portion of said first lever,

*a*  
wherein at least one of said first plate portion or said second plate portion has ridges along substantially a full length of three sides of the corresponding plate portion.-

-11. A hair styling iron comprising:

a first lever including a first grip portion, a first plate portion equipped with an electric heater, and a first fulcrum portion, and

a second lever including a second grip portion opposed to said first grip portion, a second plate portion equipped with an electric heater and opposed to said portion of said first lever, and a second fulcrum portion pivotally supported by said first fulcrum portion of said first lever,

wherein at least one of said first plate portion or said second plate portion has been subjected to a flocking treatment from a perimeter to an outside surface thereof.-

In re Appl. No. 09/327,382

~~-12.~~ The hair styling iron of claim ~~10~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein a spring is interposed between said first lever and said second lever, said spring biasing said first plate portion and said second plate portion in a direction away from each other.-

~~-13.~~ The hair styling iron of claim 10, wherein said first fulcrum portion and said second fulcrum are located between a respective grip and plate portion.-

*Card*  
~~-14.~~ The hair styling iron of claim 13, wherein said first lever is provided in two separate parts divided by a median plane along the both sides, which then are assembled and integrally connected after pivotally sandwiching said second fulcrum portion between the bilateral halves of said fulcrum portion of said first lever.-

*Sub B2*  
~~-15.~~ The hair styling iron of claim 10, wherein a pilot lamp when on, blinks at predetermined intervals while said electric heater is energized.-

~~-16.~~ The hair styling iron of claim ~~10~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein said first fulcrum portion and said second fulcrum portion are located at a rear end of a respective grip portion, and a finger resting portion is provided on an outer side of each of said first plate portion and said second plate portion with an intervening space for heat insulation being positioned between each said finger resting portion and a corresponding plate portion.

*5*  
~~-17.~~ The hair styling iron of claim ~~16~~<sup>4</sup>, wherein said

In re Appl. No. 09/327,382

finger resting portion is a board-like or bar-like element that is continuous, at the forward region thereof, to the surface of said plate portion and, at the rearward region thereof, to said grip portion.-

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-18. The hair styling iron of claim 11, wherein a spring is interposed between said first lever and said second lever, said spring biasing said first plate portion and said second plate portion in a direction away from each other.-

-19. The hair styling iron of claim 11, wherein said first fulcrum portion and said second fulcrum are located between a respective grip and plate portion.-

-20. The hair styling iron of claim 19, wherein said first lever is provided in two separate parts divided by a median plane along the both sides, which then are assembled and integrally connected after pivotally sandwiching said second fulcrum portion between the bilateral halves of said fulcrum portion of said first lever.-

-21. The hair styling iron of claim 11, wherein a pilot lamp when on, blinks at predetermined intervals while said electric heater is energized.-

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-22. The hair styling iron of claim 11, wherein said first fulcrum portion and said second fulcrum portion are located at a rear end of a respective grip portion, and a finger resting portion is provided on an outer side of each of said first plate portion and said second plate portion with an

In re Appl. No. 09/327,382

intervening space for heat insulation being positioned between each said finger resting portion and a corresponding plate portion.-

*11-23* <sup>11</sup> The hair styling iron of claim <sup>10</sup> ~~22~~, wherein said finger resting portion is a board-like or bar-like element that is continuous, at the forward region thereof, to the surface of said plate portion and, at the rearward region thereof, to said grip portion.-

*cancel* <sup>16</sup> ~~24~~ The styling iron of claim <sup>16</sup> ~~10~~, wherein said first plate portion and said second plate portion have ridges.-

<sup>12</sup> ~~25~~ The styling iron of claim <sup>11</sup> ~~11~~, wherein said first plate portion and said second plate portion have been subjected to the flocking treatment.-

#### REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Examiner's August 9, 1999, Official Action and respectfully requests reconsideration based on the above amendments and the following comments.

Claims 1-9 have been cancelled and new claims 10-25 added which remain in the application for examination.

In response to the Examiner's rejection of claims 3, 4 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, Applicant has cancelled claims 1-9 which have been rewritten as new claims 10-25 which eliminate each of the problems identified by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection has now been overcome.